

REMARKS

By the present amendment, claims 1, 2, 3 and 5 have been amended to further clarify the concepts of the present invention. Entry of these amendments is respectfully requested.

In a prior Office Action, claims 1, 2 and 4 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by the patent publication to Inui et al. In addition, dependent claims 3 and 5 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the same publication to Inui et al. Reconsideration of these rejections in view of the above claim amendments and the following comments is respectfully requested.

It is submitted that the cited Inui et al publication does not teach or suggest the presently claimed invention as defined by amended claims 1-5. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and § 103(a) and allowance of claims 1 through 5 as amended over the cited patent publication are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the subject application is now in condition for allowance and early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

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OA dated September 21, 2007
Response dated August 21, 2008

In the event this paper is not timely filed, the undersigned hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension may be charged to Deposit Account No. 01-2340, along with any other additional fees which may be required with respect to this paper.

Respectfully submitted,

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